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ENVISION CHAIR MEETS PREMIER
90,000 FAVOUR AIRPORT {page 3}



PARIS
VEGAS POLICE DEFEND RELEASE
DISH {page 13}



EDMONTON metro®
Wednesday, September 8, 2010
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Hotel. Drop Zone



▶ Spider-Man and Batgirl (Drop Zone organizer Darla Zuk) celebrate a successful drop at the Alberta Easter Seals 5th Annual Drop Zone event, a yearly fundraiser in support of those living with disabilities. Story, page 4.

BRYAN SAUNDERS/FOR METRO EDMONTON

A super day at Sutton Place Hotel

More than a few superheroes were spotted in downtown Edmonton yesterday, as they rappelled 29 storeys off of the Sutton Place Hotel. Dozens attended.

Police chief calls it quits

Boyd hastily announces his resignation {page 5}

Richie Hall faces the music

Speaks to media after Labour Day thrashing {page 20}

Youths set meeting, say cops

- Alleged assailant released to parents
- Perpetrator faces charges of sexual assault and sexual interference



KATIE TURNER
FOR METRO CANADA

Details revealed by police yesterday in a Calgary sexual assault case showed that a teenage boy and young girl had previously chatted online and arranged their meeting.

Around 5 p.m. Monday, police were called to Clarence Sansom School in Pineridge where they learned a 16-year-old boy had allegedly assaulted a 12-year-old girl.

"They agreed to meet at the park," said Staff Sgt. Leah Barber. "This wasn't a random attack by a group of kids."

Barber said there were eight other teens ranging from ages 12 to 16 who witnessed the incident.

"While the group was sitting in the bleachers, the girl and boy became involved in a sexual act," she said, adding police believe parties involved had been drinking alcohol.

Analysis

Police investigating video, have yet to look at online conversations.

- **Video** Only one 911 call was made from witnesses in the school who captured some of the event on video and turned it over to police.
- **Internet** Police have yet to analyze the online conversations.

Police have yet to interview the victim, however Barber said because the girl is 12 and the suspect is more than two years her senior, the act cannot be considered consensual.

Charges are pending against the 16-year-old, however Barber said there is a possibility that no charges will be laid.

Barber said there is no evidence the eight others involved encouraged the assault, or possessed any photos or video of the act.



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- Mr. & Mrs. Jay Shah, Edmonton



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- Marion Whiteman, Edmonton

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- Ben J., Edmonton



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- Cindy Buda, Edmonton





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- Edwin Graf, Edmonton

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Environment on menu as Pelosi, premier meet

Environmental concerns surrounding Alberta's oilsands will be at the top of the conversation topic list when Premier Ed Stelmach has a face-to-face meeting with U.S. Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi today.

"The purpose of the meeting is to get the energy-producing premiers together," Stelmach said, prior to leaving for the nation's capital. "Our goal there is to appeal to her sense of reason, to communicate very clearly that we are continuing to focus on environmental improvement in developing the oilsands."

The premier said he will also be talking to Pelosi about job opportunities in the oilsands as well as energy security and tax revenue generated by the oilsands. The dinner meeting will be Stelmach's first opportunity to meet with the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

"The information that we will communicate will be the same as done with other elected officials in the United States," Stelmach said. "This will be an opportunity to talk about our position in terms of continually improving the environment as we develop the oilsands."

ANDREAS MORSE

TAILINGS PONDS

Bird deaths may be 30 times what oilsands report: Study

A new study says birds are likely dying in oilsands tailings ponds at about 30 times the rate suggested by industry and government.

The results add weight to arguments that asking industry to monitor its own environmental impacts isn't working, said study author Kevin Timoney.

"We need to have credible scientific monitoring," he said.

Bird deaths are tracked through industry employees reporting found carcasses. The eight-year annual average of such reports, from 2000 to 2007, is 65.

"It's basically ad hoc," said Timoney, who instead factored together the number of birds that land on tailings ponds, bird death reports obtained by the province, and averages for the mortality rate of oiled birds. He also adjusted for the increased size of tailings ponds over the last two decades. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Trying to keep City Centre Airport aloft

Envision chair meets with premier Over 90,000 people in favour of keeping the airport open



ANDREAS MORSE
@METRONEWS.CA

Charles Allard flew into the premier's office yesterday with more than 20,000 signatures from Albertans living outside the city who want to keep the City Centre Airport open.

"In my mind this is a regional issue, not just a civic issue," said Allard, chair of Envision Edmonton.

"We've been asking for meetings for a long time now. We thought that he should get more involved in this and so he's going to consider some of our things that we've brought up and hopefully come back and adopt a few of our recommendations."

Premier Ed Stelmach said he was pleased with the meeting and said he'd like to see a report from the Alberta Health Services on how Medevac would be affected by the closure.

"The Medevac issue is important and we want to clear the air, period," Stelmach said. "I want to be sure because it's important to Albertans, especially those that live in remote communities."

"We don't want to put anybody at risk and that's why I want to be assured that the position taken is the right one, and it can only come from further investigation."
PREMIER ED STELMACH

ANDREAS MORSE/METRO EDMONTON



▶ Premier Ed Stelmach spoke to the media yesterday at the legislature.

1 news

News on the move

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2 Use the ScanLife application on your smartphone to scan 2D barcodes in Metro

3 The codes will direct your mobile browser to relevant content at **m.metronews.ca**

On the web at metronews.ca

Election or no election, there's a battle for Canadian hearts and minds in Ottawa. More at metronews.ca/spindoctor

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CRIME

Police seek son in arson case

As an Edmonton man went on trial for allegedly setting fires to extort money, police issued a plea for information to arrest the man's son on similar charges.

The trial of Jonathon David Meer started yesterday and is expected to last until Oct. 15.

Edmonton police said a Canada-wide warrant has been issued for 26-year-old Christopher David Meer on similar charges. They added there is a $25,000 reward for information leading to the younger Meer's arrest.

The arson-extortion investigation dates back to March 2007 when officers began looking at three arsons in the Edmonton and Pigeon Lake areas.

Two other men involved in the case have already been sentenced and are serving time in jail. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Suspect descriptions released in murder

Police have released the descriptions of three men wanted in connection with the shooting death of Jesse Lee James, 23, on Saddleback Road Saturday.

The first suspect is a black male, about 25 years old, six-foot-one to six-foot-two, physically fit looking, with finer facial features and long black hair in a ponytail, possibly braided.

The second suspect is a black male, six feet tall, 20 to 25 years old, with a younger looking face, a thin build and short black hair.

The third suspect is an East African male, in his early 20s, with short black hair and a thin build.

No charges have been laid and no one is in custody.

METRO EDMONTON

Thousands of drivers charged

This Labour Day weekend, police laid close to 4,000 charges related to unsafe driving across the province, including 64 for impaired driving, along with 19 24-hour suspensions, 99 seatbelt and child restraint infractions, 27 intersection infractions, and 3,317 speeding violations.

METRO EDMONTON

Illegal outfitters punished

Three people have been sentenced in separate cases involving illegal guiding services in Alberta. Sustainable Resources Development said an Alberta man got eight months in jail and was ordered to pay $16,917 in restitution. In the second case, two people were ordered to pay a total of $37,950 in fines.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Heroes take the plunge for charity

BRYAN SAUNDERS/FOR METRO EDMONTON



▶ Don't look down. A Drop Zone participant keeps her eyes skywards as she rappels down the Sutton Place Hotel.

▶ Superheroes drop in on Edmonton ▶ Easter Seals benefits from heroic deeds

BRYAN SAUNDERS
EDMONTON@METRONEWS.CA

Spider-Man, Catgirl and Batwoman were just a few of the nearly 100 superheroes spotted in downtown Edmonton yesterday as they rappelled 29 storeys off the Sutton Place Hotel.

This unusual spectacle — which left many passers-by craning their necks for a better look —was part of the Alberta Easter Seals' fifth annual Drop Zone event, a yearly fundraiser in support of those living with disabilities.

"Our superheroes fundraise for almost 10 months," said Darla Zuk, the Easter Seals' events manager. "They fundraise a minimum of $1,500, and then we put them through three hours of mandatory training at Vertically Inclined (an indoor climbing gym). Then we bring them here to the roof of the Sutton Place Hotel where they get to take a leap for us.

"It's very unique," Zuk added. "Where else do you get to go jump off a building and not be put in jail?"

It's this uniqueness that convinced Richard Williams to stop by and have a look.

"I heard about it on the radio," said Williams, who works downtown.

"I would never do it; it looks too scary to me. But I think it's a good idea, definitely a good way of raising awareness."

BRYAN SAUNDERS/FOR METRO EDMONTON



▶ Stacie Roper of Hey Romeo smiles to the crowd at Churchill Square.

Hey Romeo woos lunch crowd

Country music fans descended upon Churchill Square yesterday as Hey Romeo — Group of the Year nominees at this week's upcoming Canadian Country Music Awards — played a free, lunchtime concert.

The concert was one of many events happening around the city in support of Canadian Country Music Week, held this year in Edmonton. The week will culminate Sunday with a live televised awards ceremony at Rexall Place.

"I didn't know this was happening," said Trina Bjornson, a supervisor of the Department of Justice at the Edmonton Law Courts.

Bjornson and a friend decided to eat their lunches on the Square after hearing music playing across the street from their office.

"We're country girls so this drew our attention," she said.

"Normally, we spend our lunchtime shopping, but we might come here more often, maybe save some money that way," she added, laughing.

Heather Shepherd, the program co-ordinator for Churchill Square, noted that outside of this CMA-themed concert there will be events happening in the Square every weekday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. until at least sometime in October.

For more information on Canadian Country Music Week events, visit countrymusicedmonton.com. BRYAN SAUNDERS

metro

Metro Edmonton, Editorial and Photography Interns, Edmonton AB

Metro Edmonton is inviting applications for reporting and photography internships.

The positions offer hands-on experience in a daily newsroom for journalists and photographers or recent grads who are beginning their careers. The positions are non-paid.

Successful applicants in the past have excelled at generating story ideas and writing concise and compelling features as well as covering breaking news. The ideal candidate can also combine photography and reporting skills.

Qualifications

The positions are open to students and recent graduates (within the last year or two).

The internships are full-time and start September 2010. They run for three-four weeks, based on availability, Sundays to Thursdays.

No calls please. Only those applicants considered for the position will be contacted.

Please e-mail samples of your work, a cover letter and resume identifying all relevant experience and/or skills to:

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Top cop to leave at year's end

Chief abruptly resigns from EPS Search is on for replacement as Mike Boyd prepares to leave job



HARRY HODGE
@METRONEWS.CA

Edmonton police Chief Mike Boyd announced his intention to step down as chief of police at the end of the year in a hastily assembled press conference yesterday afternoon.

"Serving this great organization, and the citizens of Edmonton, has been one of the proudest accomplishments of my career," Boyd said in a release. "My decision to leave was not easy."

Chief Boyd was hired as Edmonton's chief of police in 2006 and his contract was renewed in 2008 for a three-year term. The Edmonton Police Commission was pursuing another three-year contract with Boyd when he let it be known he would be leaving at the end of 2010 for family reasons.

By contract, Boyd is required to give the Edmonton Police Commission three months' notice. He will continue to lead the EPS for the rest of the year while the search for a new chief of police gets underway.

The Commission will utilize an executive search firm to identify potential candidates from within the Edmonton Police Service and from other police agencies across Canada.

BACK TO SCHOOL

Cracking down on illegal parking

Notebooks and pens are cheaper at this time of year, but parents won't get a deal if they park illegally when dropping their children off at school.

Parking enforcement officers are beginning a three-week, zero-tolerance parking enforcement campaign around schools to get drivers in the habit of parking legally.

"With parents trying to get their kids to school, we tend to see an increase in illegal parking," said Josh Puchailo, acting parking enforcement co-ordinator.

The yearly campaign also focuses on the residential neighbourhoods, bus zones and emergency access routes around post-secondary institutions.

Parents dropping children off for school should park legally down the street from the school and walk their children to the door. Post-secondary students are advised to park in their college or university's parking lot or walk, bike or take transit.

Vehicles parked illegally in these areas will be ticketed and towed at the owner's expense without warning. During last September's campaign, officers handed out more than 1,000 tickets of the 8,500 written during the year. The city also towed dozens of vehicles around schools and post-secondary institutions.

METRO EDMONTON

Former broadcaster enters council race

In Roxie Malone-Richards' opinion, city hall needs an overhaul.

The former broadcaster announced her intentions to run for a city council seat in Ward 2 yesterday, and she is hoping voters agree.

Malone-Richards is citing the need for better accountability on city council as one of her major campaign platforms.

"I think it's outrageous that councillors voted themselves a seven per cent pay raise without any input from taxpayers, and then ignored the voice of thousands of Edmontonians who voted to keep the City Centre Airport open," said Malone-Richards.

"If I'm elected, I will rollback my councillor's salary by seven per cent, and I will work to keep the City Centre Airport open."

METRO EDMONTON

City seeking board members

While politicians are gearing up for next month's municipal election, city council is looking for a few good men and women for board member positions for the 2011 term.

If you have a keen desire to share your skills and make a difference by offering your voice and decision-making abilities, apply for vacancies on advisory and decision-making boards.

Details on these board member positions and applications are available at www.edmonton.ca/recruitment.

The application deadline is Sept. 30.

METRO EDMONTON



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News in brief



Registry gains popular ground

OPINION. A new poll suggests public opinion was shifting in favour of keeping the controversial long-gun registry, even before the RCMP issued its favourable evaluation last month.

The late August poll by The Canadian Press Harris-Decima indicates that 48 per cent of respondents thought it would be a bad idea to get rid of the registry, up from 42 per cent in April and 41 per cent last November.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Self-love, hate pervade site

RESEARCH. A new study suggests that Facebook is a magnet for narcissists and people with low self-esteem.

The York University research shows that individuals with higher levels of narcissism and those with lower self-esteem spend more time on the massively popular social-networking website.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Stoning debate intensifies

IRAN. The international crossfire over Iran's stoning sentence for a woman convicted of adultery intensified yesterday with a top European Union official calling it "barbaric" and an Iranian spokesman saying it's about punishing a criminal and not a human rights issue.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ads to take aim at human trafficking

Blue Blindfold campaign will help Canadians fight crime: Toews Follows arrival of Tamil refugees

The federal government is teaming up with the Mounties and Crime Stoppers to raise awareness about human trafficking.

Public Safety Minister Vic Toews says Crime Stoppers will join his department and the RCMP to tell people about human trafficking and how to report suspicious activity.

Toews, speaking at a news conference in Winnipeg, said the campaign will help Canadians fight a "disturbing" crime.

He said victims of human trafficking are often coerced into working for the criminals who bring them into the country.

"Victims are forced, often through violence and threats, to provide their services or labour because of their fear of their safety or that of someone else," he said.

"The majority are forced to work in the sex industry and are led to a life of exploitation, deprived of basic human rights. Most are women and children and their cases often go unnoticed and unreported due to threats from offenders, language barriers or mistrust of authorities."

"By exposing the reality of this terrible crime to the light of day, Canadians can better recognize and report evidence of criminal activity."

Sgt. Marie-Claude Arsenault of the RCMP co-ordination centre said it's important to enlist the help of the public.

"Our partnership with Crime Stoppers allows people to anonymously report the abuse and be assured that the information will be communicated to the police."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MASTER CPL. ANGELA ABBEY/CANADIAN FORCES COMBAT CAMERA



▶ Passengers crowd the deck of Motor Vessel Sun Sea. Public Safety Minister Vic Toews yesterday announced a campaign to raise awareness about human trafficking.

RCMP initiative

- The RCMP Human Trafficking National Co-ordination Centre will also run its own "I'm Not for Sale" awareness campaign.
- The Mounties have put together a human trafficking information kit for police, governments, non-governmental organizations and the public.



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JOHN RAOUX/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ Rev. Terry Jones at the Dove World Outreach Center.

Qur'an burning still set for Sat.

- Jones says constitution gives him right to burn book
- State Dept. urges Americans to condemn Jones' plan

The government turned up the pressure yesterday on the head of a small Florida church who plans to burn copies of the Qur'an on Sept. 11, warning him that doing so could endanger U.S. troops and Americans everywhere.

But the Rev. Terry Jones insisted he would go ahead with his plans, despite criticism from the top U.S. general in Afghanistan, the White House and the State Department, as well as a host of religious leaders.

Gen. David Petraeus warned yesterday in an email to The Associated Press that "images of the burning of a Qur'an would undoubtedly be used by extremists in Afghanistan — and around the world — to inflame public opinion and incite violence."

Jones responded that he is also concerned but refused to cancel the protest set for Saturday at his Dove World Outreach Center, a church that espouses an anti-Islam philosophy.

The Vatican newspaper yesterday published an article in which Catholic bishops criticized Jones' plan. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Interest rate rise expected

But some economists question wisdom of raising rates

Interest rates are expected to rise for the third time in as many months today.

A consensus of economists believe Bank of Canada governor Mark Carney will overlook recent disappointing economic data and hike the trendsetting rate a quarter point to one per cent. But many economists question how much further Carney can go in his current tightening phase considering that the U.S. is heading in the opposite direction.

And some blame the sharp slowdown during the spring and summer on the anticipation of higher interest rates.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

TV. Making news



▶ Quebecor CEO Pierre Karl Peladeau, who's heading a bid for Sun TV News.

MARSEILLE

U.S. takes an interest

The controversy over a proposed conservative Canadian TV network is making news south of the border. The Hollywood Reporter has carried two stories in the past week detailing Quebecor's bid to launch Sun TV News, a 24-hour right-wing all-news network.

1 in 5 firms plan to hire: Survey

Miners in Western and Atlantic Canada could be some of Canada's most desirable job candidates in the coming quarter, according to a survey of employer intentions by a global staffing firm. The survey released yesterday by Manpower Canada found 21 per cent of more than 1,900 Canadian employers expect to increase their payrolls in the fourth quarter of 2010, but seven per cent anticipate cutbacks.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

8% Economists have warned that Canada's unemployment rate could remain around eight per cent for some time.

Market moment

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. YESTERDAY

TSX	Dollar	Oil	Natural gas 1,000 cu ft
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Just sayin'

PAUL SULLIVAN



According to biologists, I'm a mammal, a warm-blooded creature with fur.

According to some wags, I'm also a MAMIL, or middle-aged man in Lycra, one of a species seen waddling out from our dens on weekends and mounting expensive road bikes in a picturesque attempt to capture some of the reflected glory that goes with the Tour de France and other sexy, manly European road races.

I'm not sure who coined the term, but it refers to men of a certain age, who, freaking out at the loss of youth, don't buy a red Porsche Boxster, opting instead for a red Pinarello or Specialized S-Works road bike. Even though it can set them back up to $10,000, it's cheaper than the chariot, saves on CO2 and helps them stay fit. With all the money they save, they can outfit themselves in the bike gear of their favourite Tour De France hero, like Alberto Contador or old Ironsides, Lance Armstrong.

MAMILs also exhibit some interesting behaviour. For example, they shave their legs. They think it makes them more aerodynamic. Long-suffering spouses refrain from pointing out the obvious: That if their significant MAMIL would only lay off the carbs and drop 20 pounds, it would be a damn sight easier to get up the hill.

"MAMILs also exhibit some interesting behaviour. For example, they shave their legs."

MAMILs travel in packs, often with MAFILs, (middle-aged females in Lycra, natch), who are given equal status in the herd, at least until the testosterone starts to run and the boys can't help racing even though they know they won't be able to walk, never mind do chores, rendering them useless for the rest of the weekend, sowing discord in the den.

MAMILs also love hills, and grunt up mountains at the slightest provocation. Not everyone has the cash, time or guts to climb the Col du Tourmalet, a daunting feature of the Tour De France, but here in Vancouver, MAMILs think nothing of riding up Cypress Bowl and Mount Seymour on the same day, a combined climb of almost 30 kilometres, straight up.

This Saturday morning will be a great opportunity to catch 4,000 of us in the RBC GranFondo Whistler, a breathtaking 120-kilometre ride along the Sea to Sky Highway to Whistler from downtown Vancouver. The GranFondo (which means "big ride" in sexy Italian, the lingua franca of MAMILs) has a net elevation gain of 650 metres, which is perfect for grunting up, and the first of its kind in Canada.

It sold out months ago, so next year's GranFondo promises to be even bigger. And it's just the start. The GranFondo Lycra will stretch from coast to coast. Organizers are planning to launch events in major MAMIL habitats, wherever there are large concentrations of mid-life crisis.

Cartoon

MICHAEL DE ADDER



More buzz about bees

Worth mentioning

Scientists have been buzzing for years about the dwindling number of bees and linking that to less pollination, but a new Canadian study suggests the decline could also be blamed on climate change.

James Thomson, a scientist with the University of Toronto, has spent 17 years studying the wild lily from his log cabin in a remote plot of land in Colorado's Rocky Mountains. He has discovered the flowers have been blooming earlier.

He has called the discovery a "climate-driven" mismatch between when flowers bloom and when bees emerge from hibernation.

Thomson said he studied the flowers on a piece of "pristine" land that is free from pesticides, agriculture and human disturbances, but still subject to climate change.

Thomson said while others have speculated on climate's effect on pollination, he is the first to produce "long-term evidence of a downward trend."

For several years researchers have worried about the fate of bee populations, and warned about the consequences of declining pollinators, saying the world's plants rely on pollinators for fertilization and reproduction.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

'Climate-driven' mismatch

CONTRIBUTED



What one thing would you take on a deserted island?

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Carleton	Sept 7	10:30am - 5pm
Toronto		
University of Toronto	Sept 10	4pm - 8pm
Ryerson	Sept 7	10am - 4pm
York	Sept 22	10am - 5pm
Calgary		
University of Calgary	Sept 10	3pm - 7pm
SAIT	Sept 16	11am - 2pm
Edmonton		
Grant MacEwan University	Sept 9	12pm - 5pm
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2 scene

Coming up

Beginning of the end for Harry Potter

Nov. 19 will see the release of Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 1, the first of the franchise's two-part finale. Last year we spoke with director David Yates about the process of shooting the final three films back to back. Poor guy was trying to be stoic about it: "You can't look at the top of the mountain. It's such a long way. You just look at it like, 'I'm going to get it over there today.' The two things you mustn't think about are the response to them and [not looking] too far ahead." METRO



For the latest on the Venice Film Festival, scan this code or visit metronews.ca/scene

Didn't we see that one already?

Hollywood loves a good formula The fall movie season is rife with tried-and-true plot setups that might just give you a case of deja vu



DOROTHY ROBINSON
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN NEW YORK

UPCOMING RELEASE

LOOKS LIKE



SEPT. 17
The Town — A second directorial effort from Ben Affleck finds him in front of the camera showing off his greatest strength — a Boston accent. He plays a thief trying to go straight, but who inevitably becomes torn between his loyalties and his love for a new hot thing.



This latest installment is starting to build a case for a **"Boston crime movies"** genre, which would already include Affleck's first film, **Gone Baby Gone, Mystic River** and recent classic **The Departed.** We'll pay anything to hear those Southie accents utter **"Did you kill my dawtah?"** and **"That was nawt wicked smaht."**



OCT. 1
Let Me In – Chloe Moretz stars as a troubled child in this American version of the Swedish film Let the Right One In. Critics seemed to have liked the original that doing a remake wasn't really necessary, but you know how Americans feel about subtitles.



Aside from the obvious association with the source material, the murderous child theme is not only something that makes an appearance every year (like last year's **The Orphan**), but this season alone sports at least two others, including **Case 39,** starring Renee Zellweger, and **The Last Exorcism.**



OCT. 8
Secretariat — Secretariat is a biopic about housewife Penny Chenery (Diane Lane) who takes over the management of her ailing father's stables, only to have one of its horses win the Triple Crown. Really? Another horse movie? Did anyone even watch Seabiscuit? It was a bad idea the first time, folks.



Obviously **Seabiscuit,** but also when you really think about it, there are a ton of horse movies out there: **Black Beauty, The Black Stallion, National Velvet, Flicka.** And here we were thinking these films are only made for long-haired 10 year-old girls.



OCT. 15
Red — A rogue team of ex-CIA agents now marked as the agency's top targets reunite the team to show the U.S. government what's up. Helen Mirren, John Malkovich, Bruce Willis and Morgan Freeman make up the team and — surprise! — the source material is a comic book.



It's kind of **The Bucket List** crossed with **The Expendables** or **The Losers** if Dame Helen had bigger pectorals or if Malkovich looked a little more like Terry Crews. Assembling such a top-notch list of actors for a caper like this reeks of hopes for another box-office payday like **Oceans 11.**



Vegas police defend Paris' quick release

Las Vegas police are defending Paris Hilton's quick release from jail after her August 27 arrest on suspicion of cocaine possession, saying they wanted to avoid disruptions in the jail's operations.

Hilton was out of the jail in about three hours, roughly half the average time it takes to process people facing the same charge, the Las Vegas Review-Journal reported.

Metropolitan Police Deputy Chief Jim Dixon, who runs the jail, acknowledged Hilton was pushed through the booking process to get her into a separate room and out of the jail as soon as possible.

He noted a crowd of about 100 people gathered outside the Wynn Las Vegas resort to snap photos and shoot video of Hilton while her boyfriend, Cy Waits, was pulled over and arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence.

"Yeah, she was treated differently so I don't have a disruption of my process here at the county jail," Dixon told the Review-Journal.

"When you bring somebody in like that, everybody comes over and tries to look at them. I'd have officers attempting to keep inmates away from her. I'd have disruptions."

Because of overcrowding, Hilton presented a major problem for jailers, Dixon added.

Hilton, 29, was charged with one felony count of cocaine possession after authorities say she opened a purse in front of a police lieutenant and a small baggie of cocaine fell out. Hilton claims neither the purse nor the cocaine was hers.

She's scheduled to appear before Las Vegas Justice of the Peace Joe Bonaventure on Oct. 27.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GETTY IMAGES



▶ Paris Hilton was arrested and charged with one felony count of cocaine possession on Aug. 27.

Aniston seen with TV star

Jennifer Aniston stepped out recently with Cougar Town star Josh Hopkins, sharing a two-hour dinner at popular restaurant Madeo in Beverly Hills, according to People magazine.

"She and Josh sat at a more private table and they seemed to get along great," a source says. "It was obvious that they don't know each other well, but there was a flirty energy between them and Jen looked very happy." METRO

Oksana wants Mel to pay for her PR costs

GETTY IMAGES



Oksana Grigorieva has some new demands in her ongoing custody battle with Mel Gibson, according to TMZ. The Russian singer is reportedly asking the judge to make Gibson pay her an addition $84,000 to pay off the public relations firm she's been using.

Grigorieva is also reportedly looking to have her monthly stipend increased from $6,000 to $40,000. Sources doubt the judge will award approve any money for the publicist, as it's not for the care of her and Gibson's daughter.

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Celebrity tweets



Jessica Simpson [@JessicaSimpson] This day last year my life changed because I lost my baby Daisy Mae- the best pup of all time...give your dog some extra love today!!



John Cusack [@johncusack] i'm just as hard on democrats too -- FDR was great but dems are as much in the bait and switch game these days as the gop.. i'm sad to say.



Katy Perry [@katyperry] In Italy having an Eat Pray Love moment stuffing my face w/ spaghetti (say w/accent) Loving it, eating it, praying it won't stick.



Cat Deeley [@catdeeley] @jamie_oliver cooked your roast chicken today with creamy cheesy leeks and green beans! Delicious! ven if I do say so myself! METRO

Tell us what you are recording @metroedmonton

PVRTweets

What *returning* series are you most looking forward to this Fall?

@Rainyfool Dexter!

@steveshrout Without a doubt it has to be Monday Night Football.

@lrushka House!!!!

@Princess1922 GREY'S!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

@a_frilles but of course the popular musical show.. second season of Glee :)

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3 life

Baby giraffe



The largest herd of Rothschild giraffes in Canada is now a little bigger, with the birth of Johanna at the African Lion Safari. The 300-hectare drive-through park, which also features lions, baboons, zebras, elephants and other animals, says the healthy 1.6-metre-tall giraffe arrived Aug. 18, standing up within minutes of birth.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Renewed Bandelier National Monument tells story of New Mexico's pueblo people

Sure, there are hundred dollar bottles of wine in Napa Valley, but you don't have to crush your budget to have a great time From touring avant-garde art, to gliding up a mountain on a gondola so you can sip champagne at the top, there are plenty of low-cost options

ERIC RISBERG



Heather de Savoye, left, and Amy Hall sample wine following a tour at the Rubicon Estate Winery in Rutherford, Calif.

Napa Valley offers grape fun

No doubt about it, the Napa Valley can be expensive. But there are vine values to be found if you know where to look.

Here are five things to do in wine country for $25 or less each:

Art au natural The di Rosa art preserve features groundbreaking artworks from the San Francisco Bay area set in 88 hectares of vineyard and gardens at the southern end of the Napa Valley. Created by collectors Rene and Veronica di Rosa, works are housed in their former home as well as the grounds. Your visit can be as simple as a free jaunt through the Gatehouse Gallery, at the entrance, to guided tours of the grounds and the di Rosas' former home.

The Rubicon of Wine Love movies? Love wine? Then a tour of Francis Ford Coppola's Rubicon Estate may be an offer you can't refuse. Founded in 1880, by the 1970s, the winery had fallen on hard times, which is when director Coppola came across it and began a 25-year journey of restoring the chateau and winery.

Old Faithful It's all about water, not wine at the Old Faithful geyser in Calistoga at the top of the valley. This isn't the biggest geyser in the world, but it is regular, spouting off every 40 minutes or so. The water, about 350 degrees, shoots as high as 18 metres. This is one place in Napa where kids are welcome.

Up in the air Take a gondola ride at Sterling Vineyards up a hillside to the beautiful, white-stucco winery. Adult guests are greeted with a glass of wine and then sent on a self-guided tour that offers a glimpse of winemaking operations and barrel storage before emerging on to a sunny rooftop patio with a breathtaking view of the valley. Tastings are set up in five stages along the tour.

From the terrace Finish your day by heading south to Domaine Carneros. This is a sparkling property built in the style of a French chateau. It's also one of the few wineries where you can get table service. Sit on the terrace overlooking a rolling green sweep of vineyard and order a glass of bubly and plate of cheese.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

If you go

- **The di Rosa art preserve,** 5200 Sonoma Highway, Napa, Calif., 707-226-5991, dirosaart.org. Open Wed. to Fri., 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tours and tastings start at $15 US.
- **Rubicon Estate,** at 1991 St. Helena Hwy., Rutherford, Calif., 800-782-4266, rubiconestate.com. Open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Old Faithful geyser,** 1299 Tubbs Lane, Calistoga, Calif., 707-942-6463, oldfaithfulgeyser.com. Adults, US$10, seniors, $7 US, children, 6-12, $3 US, under 6, free.
- **Sterling Vineyards,** 1111 Dunaweal Lane, Calistoga, Calif., 800-726-6136, sterlingvineyards.com/home. Tour and tasting starts at $25 US.
- **Domaine Carneros,** 1240 Duhig Rd., Napa, Calif., 800-716-2788, domainecarneros.com. Table service from 10 a.m.to 5:45 p.m.


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The future of travel is here

mTrip application for iPhone blends technology and travel reality Serves as travel guide all over world

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The new iPhone application mTrip is a travel guide and then some: Using the latest smart phone technology, it helps travellers stay on track while abroad.

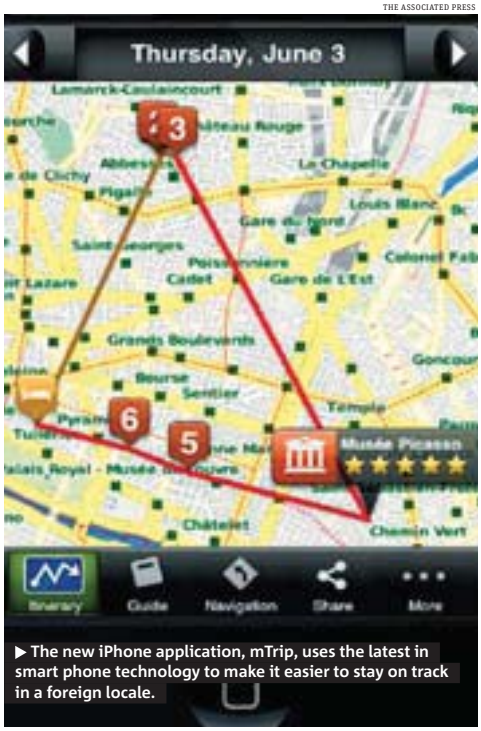
But isn't getting lost part of the fun of travelling? So-called "augmented reality" became more widely available about a year ago and takes advantage of a smart phone's GPS and compass features, along with access to high-speed wireless networks, to mash up superlocal web content with the world that surrounds you.

It works like this: You turn on the application, hit the augmented reality button and then look through your phone's camera at the Brooklyn Bridge or the Empire State Building. Icons pop up that show you other points of interest, or restaurants within about a kilometre of your location, whether the restaurant is open, and what reviewers are saying about it.

MTrip developers partnered with travel guide company Sparks to provide content but also rely on user-generated reviews and suggestions. There's a spot in the app that allows you to send a new place back to mTrip for reviews and additions to its list.

The app also has something called mTrip genius, which works similarly to the genius feature in iTunes. You note whether you want more or fewer parks, religion or monuments, and it designs an itinerary for you.

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▶ The new iPhone application, mTrip, uses the latest in smart phone technology to make it easier to stay on track in a foreign locale.

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▶ Spaghetti with Butternut Squash, Sage and Pecorino from The Vegetarian Student Cookbook. Ryland Peters & Small; rylandpeters.com.

Spaghetti with Butternut Squash, Sage and Pecorino

Ingredients :

- 14 oz. dried spaghetti
- ¼ cup olive oil
- 14 oz. butternut squash, peeled, deseeded and cut into thin wedges
- 2 garlic cloves, chopped
- freshly chopped parsley
- ½ cup Pecorino, grated or shaved
- 10–12 small fresh sage leaves
- salt and black pepper



Preparation:

1. Bring a large saucepan of water to the boil and add a pinch of salt. Drop in the pasta and cook according to the instructions on the packet.
2. Heat the oil in a frying pan over high heat. Add the squash and cook for 5–6 minutes, turning often, until golden but not breaking up. Add the garlic and sage to the pan and cook for 2–3 minutes. Remove from the heat and leave to sit to allow the flavours to develop.
3. Drain the pasta well and return to the warm pan with the squash mixture.
4. Add the parsley and half of the Pecorino and season well with salt and pepper. Serve with the remaining cheese sprinkled over the top. Makes four servings.

FROM THE VEGETARIAN STUDENT COOKBOOK

Superfood



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Fiverr makes a quick buck

- Networking site offers services for less than $5
- Great self-promotional tool for entrepreneurs

KEITH CARMAN
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA

A website anonymously pairing people looking to have tasks out of their realm completed quickly and inexpensively with those able to offer such resources for the nominal, unwavering fee of five dollars, Fiverr.com is one of the world's fastest-growing serviced-based networking sites.

"Finding outsourced or freelanced minor tasks that are monumental and time consuming for the novice but simple for the experienced. That's what this site is," notes Micha Kaufman, co-founder of Fiverr.com about his creation. "The idea of Fiverr is to capture this notion that everyone is a micro-entrepreneur and can turn a profit from it."

Used by homemakers, students, amateurs and professionals alike, a quick glimpse of Fiverr.com unveils offers of everything from the outlandish (emailing pets/writing gag songs) to practical (designing Flash logos for businesses) in an effort to allow capitalization on one's particular speciality.

Today, thousands of people buy and sell expertise or kitsch through the strictly-online service which allows person-to-person, person-to-business and business-to-business employ by simply placing an order through Fiverr.com. Enrolled participants may purchase from other Fiverrs or post their own offers, with solicitations sent via email. Upon completion of the task, payment is rendered via the entrepreneur's PayPal account with a percentage going to maintain the Fiverr enterprise.

"I draw caricatures of people," notes Vancouver-based political cartoonist J.J. McCullough who uses Fiverr as an addendum to his own filibustercartoons.com site. McCullough's work has quickly made him a popular contributor.

"It's fun to browse, trade and exchange with other Fiverrs as a self-promotional tool; great for offering simplistic, minimalist services."

With its ease-of-use, low financial impact and increased online presence, Fiverr.com required little advertising to gain notoriety. Building a membership base principally via word-of-mouth, Kaufman notes that the site appeals to both dedicated dollar earners and those seeking diversion.

"Because Fiverr.com is available for both financial gain as well as personal fulfillment, fun and social connectivity, its value is broad; far beyond just making a few dollars. Some people have proven their abilities through Fiverr and moved on to great jobs. Others sell their abilities or wares just to do something amusing."

Growth spurt

Launched a mere six months ago, Fiverr.com has taken off like something out of the late-'90s dot-com boom.

It is already the 450th most popular website in the U.S. and 800th globally; has just surpassed 100,000 services offered/rendered in that brief time span. Even Micha Kaufman is an enthusiastic customer.

"Apart from the 'eat your own dog food' that most companies should do, I've tried all kinds of things; spent tons of money here in small five dollar doses," he laughs. "Mostly on special gifts for loved ones like special postcards or having a song written and recorded for my wife."

METRO



▶ What's Your Five Dollar Dexterity? Find out at Fiverr.com.

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▶ Bad habits can lead to problems throughout the school year.

Kick bad habits to score at school

Implement good routine or bad habits can sneak back

Now that the school year is underway, students — and parents — are settling back into the school groove. Unfortunately, some students can also find themselves settling back into bad habits from previous years.

"It's important to start the new school year off on the right foot," said Dr. Nick Whitehead, founder and CEO of Oxford Learning. "The habits that students develop in the early weeks can stick with them for the entire year."

According to Dr. Whitehead, the sooner that students make good school habits part of their daily routine, the more likely that they will keep these habits for the entire school year. The trick, he says, is to implement good school habits as soon as possible, or else bad habits can sneak back.

So how do parents and students implement good school habits for the entire school year?

Dr. Whitehead recommends that parents take out last year's final report card and review the teacher's comments.

"If there are school issues from last year that weren't addressed over the summer, it's likely that they will become problems again this year," he says. "Knowing what the challenges are, and getting help with these areas before they become issues, is a great way to avoid repeating bad habits."

Dr. Whitehead also recommends that parents reintroduce school-year routines such as limiting TV and computer time, setting bedtimes and wake up times. NEWS CANADA

Bad habits

Five habits that ruin a school year:

- **1. Oversleeping/Not Getting Enough Sleep.** Students of all ages need sleep. Research has shown that during sleep, the brain files and stores information learned throughout the day. Dr. Nick Whitehead, founder and CEO of Oxford Learning, says that not getting enough sleep can impair a student's ability to focus in class.
- **2. Too Much Screen Time.** TVs, computers, and cellphones are distracting to students. Mounting evidence is showing that multitasking is not as good as was once originally thought. Accessing the Internet during homework time doesn't necessarily improve students' ability to work, and it can detract from their ability to focus on a single task for a period of time.
- **3. Procrastinating.** From social lives to family responsibilities and extra-curricular activities, students can be tempted to leave homework until the last minute. Too many distractions, not following a schedule, or not using an agenda can put homework at the bottom of the priority list. According to oxfordlearning.com, students can avoid last-minute scrambles and late-night cram sessions by making schoolwork a priority.
- **4. Poor Nutrition.** Food is fuel—the better the quality, the better the performance. If children eat a sugary breakfast, or skip breakfast altogether, they run the risk of performing poorly in school. Without proper nutrition, students can tire out and lose focus. Students should focus on their teacher, not on their rumbling bellies.
- **5. Not Getting Help.** According to Dr. Whitehead, one of the biggest mistakes that students make is waiting too long to seek help. Often it takes a call from the teacher or a failing grade before students seek support. At that point it takes more effort to correct the problem than if a student had asked for help at the "I'm-not-really-understanding-this stage."



4 sports

Venus in semis, last U.S. man out

Switzerland's Wawrinka knocks out American Querrey in five sets

Venus Williams is back in a Grand Slam semifinal. The year will end without an American man being able to make the same claim.

Stanislas Wawrinka beat Sam Querrey in five sets yesterday to put two Swiss men in a major quarter-final for the first time in the Open era — and keep the Americans out of that round in the U.S. Open for the second straight year.

After waiting out that nearly four-hour match, Williams defeated French Open champion Francesca Schiavone 7-6 (5), 6-4. It's her first Grand Slam semifinal since last year's Wimbledon.

Wawrinka won 7-6 (9), 6-7 (5), 7-5, 4-6, 6-4 to join a countryman whose presence this deep in a major tournament is just assumed: Roger Federer. Not so for Wawrinka. The 25-year-old had been 0-5 in the round of 16 at Grand Slams.

"Roger, he's always in quarter-finals since many years, so that's not something different," Wawrinka said. "But for me, it's my first time, so it's something important for my career."

The U.S. men, meanwhile, had at least one quarter-finalist at their home major each of the first 41 years of the Open era. That changed in 2009, and now it's happened again. This year goes down as the worst for American men in Grand Slam events. They had only one quarter-finalist at the four major tournaments: Andy Roddick at the Australian Open.

41
Seed position of Tommy Robredo, the lowest-ranked man left in the draw, before he lost to 12th-seeded Mikhail Youzhny yesterday.

"Yeah, you think about it," Querrey said when asked by a reporter about the U.S. drought. "I definitely wanted to win and keep the American men, keep the hope going."

Williams, seeded third, and the sixth-seeded Schiavone struggled to hold serve: There were nine breaks in 23 games. Williams failed to serve out the match in the second set, then proceeded to break the Italian to clinch the victory.

"It's not easy to play in these conditions," Williams said. "It's hard to know what decisions to make."

Next up for Williams is a semifinal against defending champion Kim Clijsters, who beat Sam Stosur 6-4, 5-7, 6-3.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MARK HUMPHREY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ Venus Williams reacts during her match yesterday.

Quoted



"It's refreshing, man, to go from the situation I was in and come here ... I'm coming to play with guys that are similar to me emotionally, the way they play the game and how they love the game."

FORMER SEATTLE RECEIVER T.J. HOUSHMANDZADEH ON SIGNING WITH THE BALTIMORE RAVENS. HE INKED A ONE-YEAR, $855,000 U.S. CONTRACT YESTERDAY.



'A high school team could have beat us': Esks' Hall

Richie Hall is running out of answers for the questions being asked of his 2-7 football team.

The head coach faced the media once again yesterday after another lopsided loss to the Calgary Stampeders on Labour Day. "A high school team could have beat us yesterday," he said. "It is very disappointing, the way we went out there and lacked execution. Too many mistakes and a lack of just playing fundamental football."

11 Edmonton had just 11 first downs and five yards rushing in Monday's 52-5 loss to Calgary.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

The rematch between the two provincial rivals goes on Friday night at Commonwealth Stadium.

Hall said he still has faith in his players and that they can only get better from here.

"We line up again on Friday night and I do still believe in our guys," he said. "I do believe that we will get it turned around."

The Eskimos added an offensive lineman to the roster yesterday, signing Kelly Bates from the Saskatchewan Roughriders.

The Eskimos gave up a 2014 draft pick for the 35-year-old Humboldt, Sask., native. "We're looking to get better up there," Hall said. "We're not satisfied, so we're really happy to have Kelly here."

ANDREAS MORSE

JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS



▶ Edmonton's Jason Nugent tackles Calgary Stampeder Jon Cornish on Monday.

JIL MCINTOSH/FOR METRO CANADA



▶ The 2011 Ford Escape Hybrid.

Escape to a greener driving experience

Hybrid version of Ford's bestselling compact SUV is handsome, practical and fun to drive ◐ Gasoline-electric system one of the best

As fuel prices climb, many people are looking at hybrid-electric vehicles. One of my favourites is Ford's compact SUV, the Escape Hybrid.

Save for its badges and instrument cluster, it doesn't look much different from its conventional Escape siblings. It's what's inside that sets it apart. It uses a 2.5-litre four-cylinder gasoline, along with an electric motor and storage battery. You don't plug it in. Rather, Escape charges its battery while you're driving. Under the right conditions, such as low speeds or when full power isn't needed, it can run on electricity alone.

Available in both front- or all-wheel-drive, the Escape Hybrid starts at $34,899, while my top-of-the-line Limited AWD started at $42,299. That's $2,750 more than a Limited AWD with 3.0-litre V6 gasoline engine, which is one of the drawbacks of hybrids: they cost more, and you'll have to do the math to figure out if you're going to save enough in gasoline to make up the difference.

Escape's hybrid system works really well: it's pretty much seamless between gas and electric, its continuously variable (CVT) automatic transmission has none of the "rubber band" feeling these units can sometimes have, and the 7.5 L/100 km that I averaged in everyday driving was much better than the 11.2 L/100 km that I got in a regular V6 Escape.

The five-passenger seating is roomy, and the upholstery is made of 100 per cent recycled materials. The

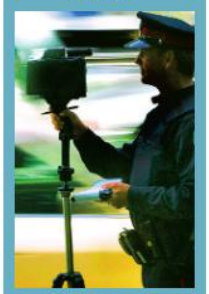
The specs

2011 Ford Escape Hybrid

- **VEHICLE TYPE** Compact SUV Hybrid
- **PRICE** $34,899 - $42,299, as-tested $45,049
- **ENGINE** 2.5-litre four-cylinder with hybrid system
- **FUEL ECONOMY** City 6.6, hwy 7.3, as-tested 7.5
- **WHAT'S BEST** Hybrid system works well, comfortable interior

5 drive

In brief



A Swedish driver could be looking at a speeding fine of 780,000 euros after being caught driving at close to 300 km/h on a motorway in Switzerland. The motorist was doing more than twice the speed limit in his Mercedes Benz SLS.

METRO WORLD NEWS

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*Based on 2010 New European Driving Cycle data. Transport Canada fuel consumption figures are not available and may vary.

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Display screens in cars are getting bigger and better They are being used in less expensive models



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We're more used to seeing small, brightly-coloured screens in our laptops and cell phones, but now they're coming to our cars too.

At the moment, you're more likely to find the multi-coloured multimedia screens in the central dashboards of premium cars including Audis, BMWs and Mercedes.

These TFT — Thin Film Transistor — screens that show navigation, infotainment, driver-information systems and rear-view-camera displays were once the preserve of premium cars, but they're now becoming more democratic.

As people buy more smaller and more fuel-efficient vehicles, expect to see more of these multi-purpose screens in the dashboards of the Opel Corsas and Ford Fiestas of this world.

Most amazingly of all they are now migrating from the middle of the dashboard to a position in front of the driver, where the instrument cluster that includes speed, tachometer and fuel levels is.

A great example is in the Jaguar XJ where a 30cm, high-definition TFT screen replaces the traditional physical dials with a virtual display. The screen can show speed, revs, and fuel levels, temperature and so on, but is also a display area for the car's multimedia and infotainment systems, driver assistance systems and navigation map. It can even change look and colours according to what mode you're driving in, highlighted with dynamic red when you're in sport mode, for example. This reconfigurability means different information can be displayed at different times, something no analogue display can do.

And in the future? High-resolution colour TFT displays may yet take over the entire instrument cluster and dashboard and become the headline act for all the car's information systems. Large reconfigurable display screens will offer more room and more flexible functionality. The recent Mercedes-Benz SLS AMG E-Cell concept may yet be an accurate indicator of the way this technology will grow.

As the screens get cheaper to produce, they are set to get even larger. In the E-Cell concept almost the entire centre stack was a 25cm touchscreen such that the usual array of HVAC and audio switchgear was consigned to history.

There few challenges to how many ways the screen can be used is safety — obviously it's not a good idea to drive with loads of different pieces of information flashing up on your display.

The other is drivers' behaviour; according to reports most drivers feel more comfortable with old-fashioned 'real' dials and buttons rather than virtual ones. Maybe we're not as comfortable with the future as we think we are.

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Jag creates dream XJ to mark 75th anniversary

As part of the year long celebration of Jaguar's 75th anniversary the Jaguar design team created the XJ75 Platinum Concept, a one-of-a-kind design project that was on display at the Pebble Beach Concours D'Elegance Concept Car Lawn recently.

The XJ75 Platinum Concept is the company's first demonstration of the design customization potential of the striking new XJ luxury salon, emphasizing the Jaguar's dramatic interior and exterior styling themes.

Dominated by a striking white and black contrast theme that suggests precious platinum metal, the XJ75 Platinum Concept is a high-performance 470hp 2011 Jaguar XJL Supercharged equipped with new ground-hugging front, rear and side sills.

Painted satin matte pearlescent white, exterior chrome elements have been revised to either a dark chrome or gloss black.

Bespoke 22-inch wheels are black and use a brushed contrast finish. The contrast theme continues with gloss pearlescent white air vents, veneers and diamond stitch suede inserts to the seats and headliner, all set against the backdrop of a full Jet Soft grain leather interior.



Suede and leather accents are seen throughout the interior to further material enhancements.

Performance on the XJ75 Platinum Concept is derived from its 5.0-litre supercharged direct-injection V8 with 470 hp and 424 lb/ft of torque.

Entertainment is provided by a 1,200-watt Bowers & Wilkins surround sound system with 20 speakers powered through 15 channels and state-of-the-art sound processing technology.

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TALE OF TORQUE AND HORSEPOWER

To describe the level of output in any given engine, we need to use two different measurement units: Horsepower, and torque. This duality has, in my opinion, created a monster.



▶ Inside every car engine lie the secrets of torque and horsepower.

Why do we need two different measurement units? Is one more important than the other? What is their relationship?

If you don't care about the answers to those questions, consider yourself lucky.

The rest of us are doomed to live in uncertainty. Because no matter how many lengthy explanations you hear or read, you can never be 100 percent sure you "got it," so atmospheric and ethereal are the elements and relationships of horsepower and torque.

So I realize that my following explanation may only add to the confusion, but something compels to try.

Torque is grunt — what you use to twist the lid open on a bottle of pickles. The actual dictionary definition is "twisting or rotating force." In automotive terms it's the "force" that ultimately turns the vehicle's drive wheels. The strength of that "force" is expressed in a torque rating.

As an example, let's look at the most popular car in Canada, the Honda Civic; its 1.8-litre engine produces 128 lbs-ft of torque at 4,300 rpm. This denotes the maximum amount of torque that the engine can create, and fast that engine is revving, when it makes its maximum torque.

But it also produces 140 horsepower (hp) at 6,300 rpm.

This is where the fun starts. I think it's useful to ponder why horsepower ratings were invented in the first place — to give us an idea of how much work a "steam engine" could do, relative to a horse. So horsepower is a "rate" — how much torque can be delivered over a period of time.

For some reason, the amount of torque used for horsepower calculation has been set at 550 lb-ft per second. The rationale for that figure is explained somewhere in The Da Vinci Code.

So an engine's horsepower rating is tied to its torque rating.

But that doesn't necessarily mean you want an engine designed solely for maximum torque. Generally, to make an engine with a lot of torque (or force) means the engine will turn over (or rev) slowly. Think of the big, diesel engines in large ships — a lot of force is needed to turn their propellers. Engines like that huge torque numbers, and surprisingly low horsepower figures.

An engine that gives us big — but infrequent — power events is basically useless in a road-going vehicle. Better to have somewhat less torque, but have it delivered more frequently.

But you don't want things too rev-happy either, as most people prefer engines that have most of their torque available during a wide range of engine speeds.

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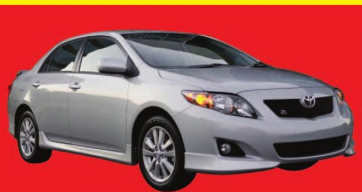

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Wise customers read the fine print: •, ', †, ±, ≠, § The New Fall Colours Event offers apply to retail deliveries of selected new and unused models purchased between September 1, 2010 and September 30, 2010 from participating dealers. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Offers subject to change and may be extended without notice. See participating dealer for complete details and conditions. •$26,998 Purchase Price applies to 2010 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT 4x4 (24A+AGR+XFH) only and includes $8,250 Consumer Cash Discount. See participating dealer for complete details. Pricing includes freight ($1,400) and excludes license, insurance, registration, any dealer administration fees and other applicable taxes. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Dealers may sell for less. 'Consumer Cash Discounts are offered on most new 2009/2010 vehicles and are manufacturer-to-dealer incentives, which are deducted from the negotiated price before taxes. Amounts vary by vehicle. See your dealer for complete details. †0% purchase financing for 36 months available to qualified customers on approved credit through Royal Bank of Canada, Scotiabank, TD Financing Services and Ally on most 2010 Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge and Ram models, except Challenger, Custom Canada Value Package and SE Plus, Grand Caravan Cargo Van, Sprinter and Ram Chassis Cab. Example: 2010 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT 4x4 (24A+AGR+XFH) with a Purchase Price of $26,998 (including $8,250 Consumer Cash Discount and freight) financed at 0% APR for 36 months equals 36 bi-weekly payments of $374.97. Total obligation is $13,498.92. Cost of borrowing is $0. ±Variable rate shown is based on TD and RBC Prime Rate and fluctuates accordingly. Payments and financing term may increase or decrease with rate fluctuations. RBC offer is not open to dealers in Quebec. TD offer is not open to residents of Newfoundland and Labrador, Yukon, Nunavut and Northwest Territories. Some conditions apply. See participating dealer for complete details. ≠Customer Choice Financing for 36-, 48- and 60-month terms on approved credit through TD Financing Services is available at participating dealerships to qualified retail customers on most new 2010 and 2011 Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge and Ram models except Grand Caravan Cargo Van, and Ram Chassis Cab. Vehicles are financed over a 36-, 48- or 60-month term with payments amortized over a term of up to 96 months and the pre-determined residual balance payable at the end of the contract. At contract end, customers have the choice of returning their vehicle through a Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge, Ram dealership with no further obligations (except payment of a $199 return fee and excess wear and tear, mileage and similar charges), financing the remaining balance for the rest of the amortization period at then-current standard rates or paying the residual balance in full. Some conditions apply. See participating dealer for complete details. §2010 Ram 1500 Crew Cab Laramie 4x4 shown. Price including applicable Consumer Cash Discount: $34,745. Pricing includes freight ($1,400) and excludes license, insurance, registration, any dealer administration fees and other applicable fees and charges not included. Dealers may sell for less. See participating dealers for complete details. §2010 Ram 1500 Crew Cab TRX 4 Off-Road shown. Price including applicable Consumer Cash Discount: $32,745. 2010 Ram 3500 Crew Cab Laramie 4x2 shown. Price including applicable Consumer Cash Discount: $54,745. Pricing includes freight ($1,400) and excludes license, insurance, registration, any dealer administration fees and other applicable fees and charges. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Dealers may sell for less. ®SIRIUS and the dog logo are registered trademarks of SIRIUS Satellite Radio Inc. ®Jeep is a registered trademark of Chrysler Group LLC. The Best Buy Seal is a registered trademark of Consumer's Digest Communications LLC, used under license. Customer Choice Financing is a trademark of Chrysler Group LLC. *Based on calendar year market share gain.

Cross over to Murano

Nissan model popular among shopper with an eye for style
Known issues related to accessories

SECOND GEAR

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

When the Nissan Murano hit the road late in 2002, it offered distinctive styling in what would quickly grow to become a crowded marketplace full of similar crossover SUV models. Designed in California and riding the same platform as the Nissan Altima, Murano quickly became popular with shoppers with an eye for style.

All models got a 3.5 litre, 240-horsepower V6 engine and an available intelligent All Wheel Drive (AWD) system. A Continually Variable Transmission (CVT) was standard, and allowed the engine to operate more economically while enhancing smoothness and efficiency. This type of transmission has no gears to shift, and may feel 'funny' to some drivers until they get used to it.

Look for features like automatic climate control, a sunroof, heated power seats, Bose audio, a keyless ignition system, tinted windows and more. Navigation and a backup camera were available, too.

A full selection of safety gear was also on board, including four-wheel antilock disc brakes and both side and side-curtain airbags.


▶ The Nissan Murano was among the models that started the crossover SUV trend.

The specs

- **MODEL** 2003 to 2007 Nissan Murano
- **VEHICLE TYPE** Crossover SUV
- **APPROXIMATE USED PRICE RANGE** $9,500 to $25,000

What Owners Like

Styling, space, flexibility and on-board storage were rated most highly by owners of the Murano, followed by driving dynamics and ride quality.

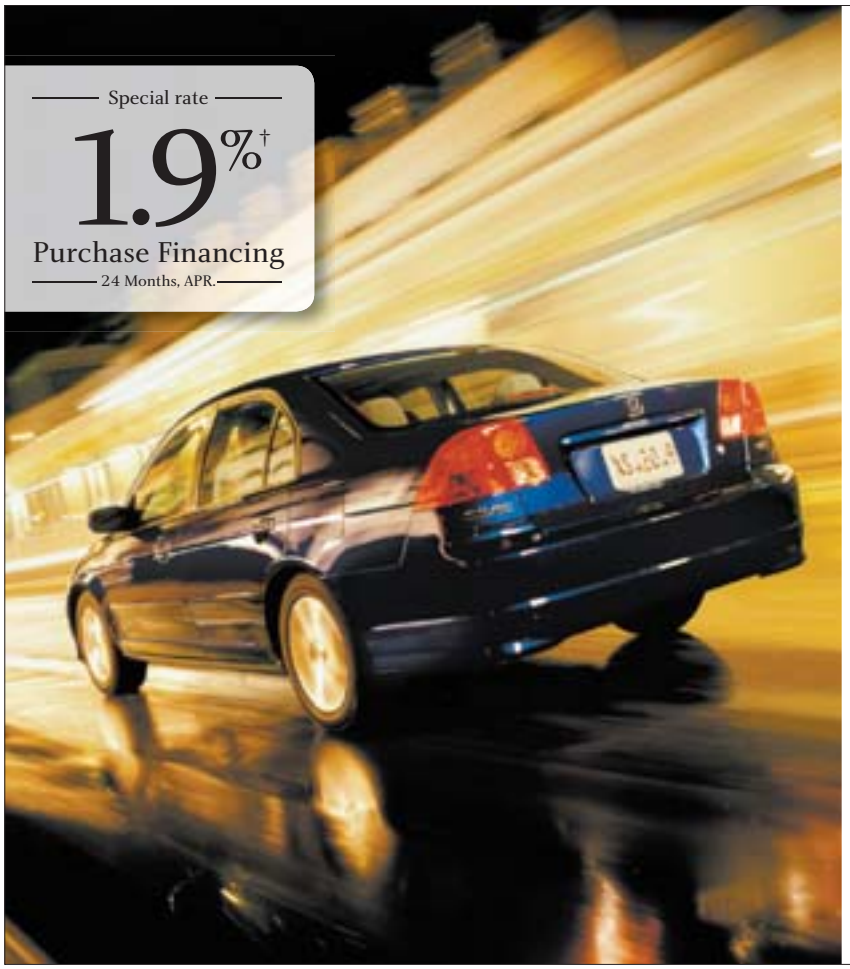
What Owners Hate

As it tends to go with crossover and SUV models, the most common owner-stated complaint deals with fuel mileage. Some owners wish for better fit and finish and a smoother ride on rough surfaces, too.

Common issues

Most of Murano's age-related issues seem to centre around smaller problems related to interior and exterior accessories.

Broken window motors, door handles and power seat motors have all been reported, so be sure to start your test-drive by thoroughly inspecting every electric and mechanical part of the vehicle's cabin.



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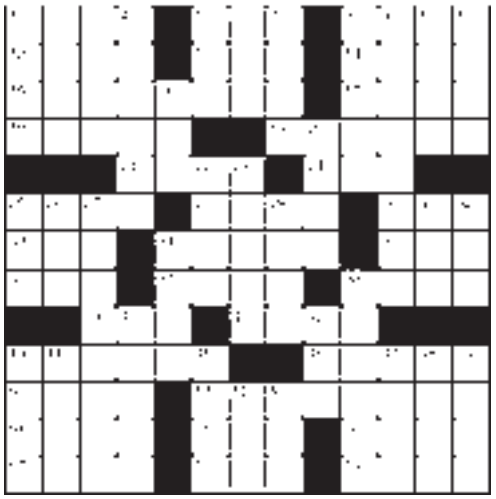
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†Limited time financing offer on all Honda Certifed Used Civics available through Honda Financial Services, on approved credit. Offer only available up to 24 months on Honda Certified Used Honda Civic, Accord and CR-V (2005–2009 model years). Finance example based on 2005 Honda Civic model: $10,000 at 1.9% per annum equals $424.96 per month for 24 months. Cost of borrowing is $199.04 for a total obligation of $10,199.04. Taxes, license, insurance, registration and fees are not included. See your Honda dealer for full details. Dealer may sell for less. Offer expires September 30, 2010.

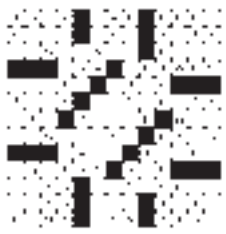
Crossword



Across
1 Hairless
5 Heidi's height
8 Bar room?
12 Pennsylvania port
13 Meadow
14 Colloquial greeting
15 Genius
17 Mid-month date
18 French composer Erik
19 Half a winter pair
21 Charlie Brown's expletive
24 Wire measure
25 Genealogy chart
28 Paper quantity
30 Peculiar
33 — generis
34 "Old MacDonald's Farm" refrain
35 Neither mate
36 Dowel
37 Jack of "Hawaii Five-0"
38 Wan
39 Owns
41 The Red and the Black
43 Missive
46 County of Ireland
50 Medley
51 Giving only two options
54 Artesian well?
55 "Hail!"
56 Ids' counterparts
57 Relaxation
58 Color
59 Jab

Down
1 Honey bunch
2 Carreras solo
3 Dryer buildup
4 Want
5 Hearty quaff
6 Maui memento
7 Brief pain spasm
8 Tex-Mex entree
9 Phantoms
10 Corrosive alkalis
11 Whip
16 Afternoon affair
20 Bullets, e.g.
22 Small combo
23 Prognosticators
25 Recipe meas.
26 Regret
27 The Reagan Era, pretty much
29 Staffer
31 Homer's interjection
32 Parched
34 Other-wise
38 Dormant
40 Expiate
42 Essen expletive
43 Earring locale
44 Director Kazan
45 Peruse
47 Jason's ship
48 Castle
49 Gaelic
52 Wall climber
53 Ball-bearing item

▶ Yesterday's answer



Sudoku

		9	6		7	2		
	6		9		1		4	
4								5
		8	4	7	3	5		
		7	2	1	6	4		
9								8
	4		7		8		5	
		2	3		5	9		

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

5	3	1	9	6	2	4	7	8
7	6	8	1	5	4	9	2	3
4	2	9	3	8	7	1	5	6
9	5	2	4	3	6	7	8	1
6	1	7	5	2	8	3	9	4
8	4	3	7	9	1	2	6	5
1	8	4	2	7	5	6	3	9
2	9	5	6	1	3	8	4	7
3	7	6	8	4	9	5	1	2

Send a KISS

Show some love! Send a note to somebody special at kiss@metronews.ca

Aubrey I just wanted to say I love you and let you know how proud I am of you for starting College. Good luck baby I hop you had a great firsr day and remember I will always be right here to help you along the way.
LOVE ANDRE

My Darling Sunshine, I'm so Proud of You n want you to know that you are an Amazing Lady n a True Blessing!! The past 4 months have been awesome with you in my Life!! Lets make it many, many more!
HUGS N KISSES FROM YOUR CHEF XOXO

POLSKI OGORKI!!! here's to you making me smile for the last years. it's been too easy, fun and happy for it to not happen again in the future. lovies and kissies
LOVIES AND KISSIES - YOUR YUCKYSOBA GRRRRL

A look at the weather

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Min 5° Max 14°	Min 5° Max 16°	Min 3° Max 17°

Michele McDougall
Weather Specialist
BT BREAKFAST TELEVISION



"My favourite part is reporting the weather. It fascinates me, and as we know around here, it's always changing, keeping forecasters on their toes". WEEKDAYS 6AM

Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20
Today's new moon will help focus your mind on a single objective and before you know it you will be the one who everyone looks up to.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21
What seemed such a difficult problem yesterday will have the simplest of solutions today. The only thing that has actually changed is your perspective, but in a magical way that changes everything.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21
Later this month the Sun will move into the most dynamic area of your chart and your confidence will soar. However, you must deal with a domestic issue that threatens to spiral out of control.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 Not only will today's new moon make you feel more alive but with Venus moving into your fellow Water sign of Scorpio you'll be a real live wire when it comes to love and affection.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 The most important thing now – in fact the only thing you should be thinking about – is getting your financial house in some sort of order. The new moon will help you make the right choices.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 The new moon in your sign makes this one of the best days of the year to launch new projects. Now is the time to do something about all those careful plans you've made.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 You know that your life needs to change but you can't seem to make the final effort. Maybe you're not quite yet ready to give it your best shot.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22
Venus, planet of emotional and material values, moves into your sign for an extended stay today, and that's good news all round. Love and luck will be closely linked over the next few weeks.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 Have you got a new project lined up? Is it the kind of project that could make you rich and famous? If you have, now is the time to get started on it.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20
The new moon in Virgo will do wonders for your confidence and encourage you to make far-reaching changes to your lifestyle. If you get the urge to travel don't fight it.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18
You don't need to fear the future. You don't need to fear anything. Each and every human life unfolds according to a pre-ordained cosmic plan.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20
This is one of the best days of the year for partnerships of all kinds, but especially for affairs of the heart. Let your nearest and dearest know how much you love them.

SALLY BROMPTON

Caption contest



"So this is how the Incredible Hulk started!!"
JOHN GORDON

WIN!

You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image to the right and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS





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$179† /Month at **0%** APR / 84 Mo. with **$0** Down payment

Dealer participation of $500 included.

Starting From **$14,994**♦



Limited model shown

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Starting From **$14,594**♦

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- Remote Keyless Entry with Security System



GL Sport model shown

2010 GENESIS COUPE

Save **$1,000**▼ On All 3.8 V6 Models and **0%** FINANCING◊ ON ALL MODELS



Genesis Coupe 3.8GT model shown

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Limited model shown

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GRADUATE REBATE PROGRAM

™The Hyundai names, logos, product names, feature names, images and slogans are trade marks owned by Hyundai Auto Canada Corp. ♦Prices for models shown: 2010 Elantra Limited is $22,944. 2010 Accent GL Sport is $17,644. Delivery and Destination charges of $1,495/$1,495 are included. Registration, insurance, license fees and all applicable taxes are excluded. Delivery and destination charge includes freight, P.D.E., dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. ◊Finance offers available O.A.C. from Hyundai Financial Services based on new 2010 Elantra L 5-speed/2010 Accent GL 3 Dr 5-speed/2010 Genesis Coupe/2010 Santa Fe GL 2.4L 6-speed models with an annual finance rate of 0%/0%/0%/0% for 84/84/60/60 months. †Finance offers available O.A.C. from Hyundai Financial Services based on new 2010 Elantra L 5-speed/2010 Accent GL 3 Dr 5-speed with an annual finance rate of 0%/0 for 84/84 months. Monthly payments are $179/$174. No down payment is required. Dealer participation of $500/$350 for 2010 Elantra L 5-speed/ 2010 Accent GL 3Dr 5-speed is included. Finance offers include Delivery and Destination of $1,495/$1,495. Registration, insurance, PPSA license fees and all applicable taxes are excluded. Delivery and destination charge includes freight, P.D.E., dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. Financing example: 2010 Santa Fe GL 2.4L 6-speed for $25,759 at 0% per annum equals $429.32 per month for 60 months for a total obligation of $25,759. Cash price is $25,759. Example price includes Delivery and Destination of $1,760. Registration, insurance, PPSA license fees and all applicable taxes are excluded. Delivery and destination charge includes freight, P.D.E., dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. ▼Purchase or lease any 2010 Genesis Coupe 3.8 V6 model and receive a price adjustment of $1,000. ΩPurchase or lease any 2010 Santa Fe model equipped with all wheel drive and receive a price adjustment of $2,000. Certain conditions apply. ♦◊†▼ΩOffers available for a limited time and subject to change or cancellation without notice. See dealer for complete details. Dealer may sell for less. Inventory is limited, dealer order may be required. ∞Based on the July 2010 AIAMC report. ΔSee your dealer for eligible vehicles and full details of the Graduate Rebate Program. ††Hyundai's Comprehensive Limited Warranty coverage covers most vehicle components against defects in workmanship under normal use and maintenance conditions.